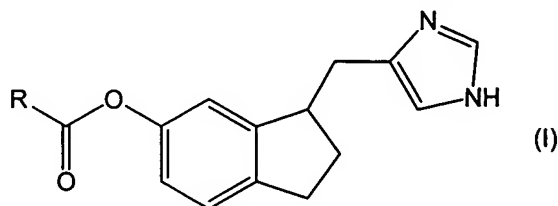


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of general formula I,



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate ~~salts or hydrates~~ thereof, wherein R represents unsubstituted or substituted lower alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted aryl, unsubstituted or substituted cycloalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted heteroaryl, unsubstituted or substituted lower alkylamino or a saturated five or six membered heterocyclic group containing one or two nitrogen atoms.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R represents unsubstituted or substituted lower alkyl or unsubstituted or substituted aryl.

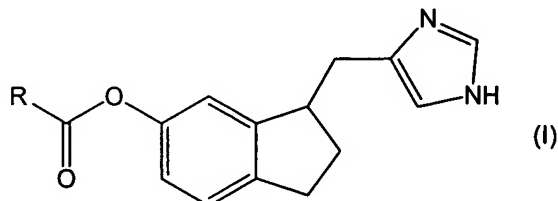
3. (Original) A compound according to claim 2, wherein R represents unsubstituted or substituted lower alkyl.

4. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 3, said compound being 4-[6-(2,2-dimethylpropanoyloxy)indan-1-ylmethyl]-1*H*-imidazol-1-ium chloride.

5. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 3, said compound being 4-(6-acetoxyindan-1-ylmethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-1-ium chloride.

6. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 3, said compound being 4-(6-butyryloxyindan-1-ylmethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-1-ium chloride.

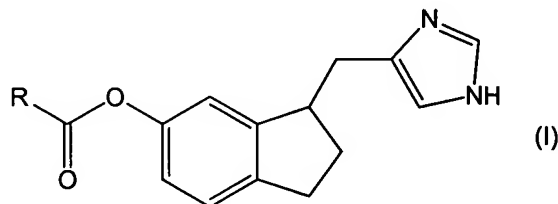
7. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of hypertension, glaucoma, migraine, diarrhea, ischemia, addiction to a chemical substance, hypotension, shock, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, a micturition disorder, a withdrawal syndrome, congestive heart failure, anxiety or a neurological, musculoskeletal, psychiatric or cognition disorder, or for achieving sedation or analgesia, or for reducing nasal congestion, or for achieving anesthesia with an adjunct, which comprises administering to a mammal in need thereof an effective amount Use of a compound of formula I,



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate ~~salts or hydrates~~ thereof, wherein R is as defined in claim 1, ~~for the manufacture of a medicament to be used in the treatment of hypertension, glaucoma, migraine, diarrhea, ischemia, addiction to chemical substances, hypotension, shock, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, micturition disorders, withdrawal syndromes, congestive heart failure, anxiety or different neurological, musculoskeletal, psychiatric or cognition disorders or as a sedative or an analgesic agent, nasal decongestant or as an adjunct to anaesthesia.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A method ~~A use~~ according to claim 7, wherein the compound is 4-[6-(2,2-dimethylpropanoyloxy)indan-1-ylmethyl]-1*H*-imidazol-1-ium chloride.

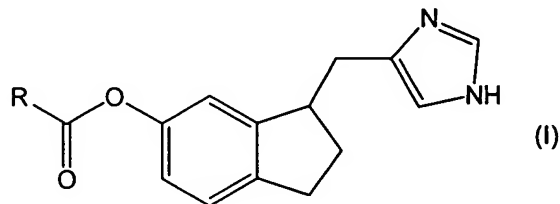
9. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises as an active agent a compound of formula I,



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate ~~salts or hydrates~~ thereof, wherein R is as defined in claim 1, and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

10. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, wherein the compound is 4-[6-(2,2-dimethylpropanoyloxy)indan-1-ylmethyl]-1*H*-imidazol-1-ium chloride.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of a disease or condition ~~diseases or conditions~~, wherein α_2 agonists are indicated to be useful, said method comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of formula I,



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate ~~salts or hydrates~~ thereof, wherein R is as defined in claim 1.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein the compound is 4-[6-(2,2-dimethylpropanoyloxy)indan-1-ylmethyl]-1*H*-imidazol-1-ium chloride.